

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraphs of the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18:

A2
A trocar in accordance with the present invention may further comprise an obturator assembly which slidably engages the axial bore defined by the cannula assembly. The obturator assembly comprises a shaft having a piercing end for insertion into a patient and a handling end for gripping by a surgeon. The piercing end of the shaft of the obturator includes a piercing tip having an upper face and a lower face which taper from the shaft to form a non-conical, blunt head. Additionally, wing elements having ~~a conical shaped point and beveled~~ lateral edges are located on opposite sides of the piercing tip between the upper face and lower face.

Paragraph beginning at page 2, line 29:

A3
In accordance with the present invention, penetration forces associated with insertion of a blunt tip trocar into a wound track of a patient are reduced due to the improved wing elements. The ~~conical point and beveled~~ lateral edges of each wing element widen the wound track to ease insertion of the trocar into the patient. As a result, a trocar in accordance with the present invention is better able to resist these penetration forces without failure as compared to existing blunt tip trocars.

Paragraph beginning at page 3, line 25:

Q4 With reference to FIG. 2, the piercing tip 35 of the obturator assembly 30 is shown in more detail. The piercing tip 35 comprises a body 36 having an upper face 36A and a lower face 36B. The upper face 36A and lower face 36B taper away from the shaft 31. The body 36 of the piercing tip 35 partially houses an insert blade 37. The insert blade 37 comprises a blunt, non-conical head 38 and two wing elements 39A, 39B which protrude outward from the body 36 of the piercing tip 35. Each of the wing elements 39A, 39B has come to a conical point 40A and have beveled lateral edges 40B. The wing elements 39A, 39B are located between the upper face 36A and lower face 36B of the body 36 and are spaced approximately 180 degrees apart. The insert blade 37 may be fabricated from metal or a hard plastic material.
